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Referendum Benefits.

One does not need to become a radical progressive and a thoroughgoing advocate of the referendum as a panacea everywhere to favor a District referendum.

The most reasonable criticisms of the referendum allege that the scope of its useful application has been exaggerated; that the device is of the greatest value in the smallest political subdivisions as in town or city, less in the state and, except possibly for the adoption of constitutional amendments, of no value in national legislation. It is objected that the referendum tends to increase unduly the number of elections, and that it interferes into a representative government it tends to belittle and to weaken injuriously the prestige and authority of the elected representative legislature.

None of these objections applies to a District referendum. It cannot unduly and hurtfully increase the number of local elections, for there are no others. It cannot weaken the authority of the regularly constituted local legislature, because outside of Congress the District has no such legislature to be weakened.

The referendum finds its most valuable and unobjectionable application as a supplement of representative government in special cases where public opinion should be taken into account in legislation and where the securing of that expression of public sentiment through the ordinary forms of representative government is denied by the Constitution—for example, in the District of Columbia, where Congress in acting for the people under the Constitution should heed and give effect in local concerns to local sentiment and yet is deprived of power to learn this public sentiment in any conclusive way by absence from the District of all representative elections and all elections of any kind. The referendum will serve in the District a very useful purpose in securing reliable expressions of local public sentiment concerning important legislative issues to which Congress, as exclusive legislature, may wisely and equitably respond.

The proposed referendum, thus free locally from objections urged against it elsewhere, will benefit the District (1) by strengthening in congressional recognition and favor the sound principle of due consideration for local sentiment upon which all wise District legislation is based; (2) by expediting the enactment of a constitutional amendment which shall give to the 360,000 Washingtonians all the political and judicial rights of Americans which are consistent with national control of the nation's city; (3) by increasing congressional appreciation of the strength, intelligence and character of the District electorate with the result of greater legislative consideration by Congress both before and after the adoption of the constitutional amendment; and (4) by framing the District's anti-liquor law in conformity with local public opinion on the wise principle of local option legislation which prevails elsewhere in the United States and in the other progressive communities of the world like New Zealand.

It would seem that everybody in Washington, men and women, progressives and conservatives, pro-saloon and anti-saloon people alike, should in the broad, general interest of the capital unite in favor of the District referendum.

After observation of the conditions under which American troops fight, it may be difficult to prevent some of the variable Mexican soldiers from trying to desert and join Gen. Funston.

The presidential candidate who announces his cabinet ahead of the June convention is necessarily a believer in preparedness.

As a feature of modern journalism the "yellow peril" is to be more yellow than perils.

The South and the Presidency.

Representative Britt of North Carolina proposes United States Judge Pritchard of that state for the Chicago nomination, and pays him a high compliment well deserved. Services in the Senate and then on the bench are to the credit of Judge Pritchard, and he is very much respected. But as he is a southern man the Chicago prize is beyond his reach.

The south is, and has been for years, barred from serious presidential speculation. Both parties have looked, and gone, elsewhere for their candidates. And yet both parties have had in southern men very able and worthy men, equal to the duties of the presidency.

The democratic party has been rich in such material. Bayard of Delaware, Eustis of Louisiana, Morgan of Alabama, Carlisle of Kentucky, Lamar of Mississippi, Vance of North Carolina, and Hill of Georgia are quotable in support of the assertion.

Even the republican party, long in the

minority there, and on that account somewhat discouraging to ambition, has shown some very bright names. Harlan of Kentucky, Goff of West Virginia, Maynard of Tennessee, Warner of Missouri, are on the list.

The case of Woodrow Wilson illustrates the point. He is southern born and reared, but found his field of usefulness elsewhere, and so became identified with another section of the country. Had he remained in the south, written his books there, and shown his capacity for public affairs there, he would yet never have become a presidential candidate. Geographical lines and that attaching to them in our presidential politics would have been an insurmountable barrier. He was nominated and elected President as a Jerseyman. The Virginian was left quite out of the calculation.

Champ Clark came near to proving an exception to the rule. Born and reared in Kentucky, and a product of Missouri politics, he yet, as a southern man, almost reached goal at Baltimore. Whether had he been nominated he would have encountered as a candidate his southern complexion and connections, and with what effect, we can only guess. In our great quadrennial race, "everything goes."

How much longer this rule will last nobody may say. The civil war produced it, and we are fifty years away from the close of that struggle. Fifty years more may not witness a change, although north and south are thoroughly welded together now.

Mr. Root's Prestige.

Mr. Root is having an experience which must be both gratifying and somewhat amusing to him. His unusual and extraordinary equipment for public affairs is acknowledged by both parties. His own party reckons it among its most valuable assets. In all the discussion about the Chicago convention, and later, as well as about the situation in case of republican success in November, he figures in a way to give him a place alone in present-day politics.

In some quarters this estimate is heard: "Would make a great President. Would grasp the whole case, foreign and domestic, and know just what to do. Could be his own Secretary of State. Could be his own Secretary of War. Has served with eminent success in both departments. Pity he lacks the elements of that sort of personal popularity indispensable in a candidate. He could not be elected. The boys could not be rallied to him. He is too rich for the everyday blood."

In all quarters this estimate is heard: "Would make a great Secretary of State. With the large opportunity that will come in March next, and continue for some time, he would do work surpassing in value not only what he himself did in the office a few years ago, but what any other man has performed there in half a century. Our foreign relations will require the most skillful handling at the close of the war, with the whole world adjusting itself to new conditions. With Root on deck in charge of negotiations, everybody in the country would feel safe."

This latter estimate is emphasized by the Roosevelt boomers. Say they: "Roosevelt for President will mean Root for Secretary of State. Remember what Roosevelt said about Root only a few years ago. Described him as the best qualified man for public business he had ever met. Note that they have met and settled the differences that grew out of the campaign of 1912. Roosevelt's candidacy, fortified thus by the certainty of Root's appointment to the State Department, would be irresistible."

But by what right do the Rooseveltians attempt to corner the Root stock? Why would not Mr. Root be available for the State Department under any republican now under consideration for the presidency? Indeed, his fitness for the place is so conspicuous, so widely recognized east and west, the chances of his appointment would seem to be ninety-nine in a hundred regardless of whether the appointing power is exercised by Mr. Roosevelt or another—any other.

The Zeppelin has yet to report a victory that resulted in any decisive military advantage.

Among the unreliable reports from Mexico the Villa health bulletins are conspicuous.

It is not necessary to be strictly bull moose to be mentioned in T. R.'s cabinet prospectus.

It is leap year, but the feminine demand is for suffrage and not sentimentality.

Business and the Presidency.

"The latest thing out" is a demand for a business man for President. We are told that it is time to turn from lawyers, educators, politicians and all-around men, and call to the highest office in the state a man who understands business thoroughly and could give the country a thorough business administration. It is distinctly a business era. As soon as the war closes every nation of consequence will have to address itself to the rehabilitation of its business interests. And so on.

We have in this country some men of great business capacity, who have established and successfully conducted some great business industries. They are truly captains in their lines. Now and then one reaches high political office and succeeds there. None such has ever reached the presidency, and here is an assertion that the time is ripe.

The proposition is not strengthened, however, by the pater that such a man at the head of affairs could save the country at least three hundred million dollars annually, alleged to be now wasted by appropriations made carelessly or ignorantly. That statement

has recently been exploded. One of the promises made by the democracy in seeking power was a saving of just that much in providing for the support of the government. Power was obtained, but the party found that the promise could not be kept. There had been no such waste, and the needs of a great country had to be provided for.

The utmost care should be taken in filling Uncle Sam's purse. But, as in the past, it will have to be filled. In the very nature of things, we are entering upon an era of very large appropriations. Preparedness spells money. Growth of every kind at home spells money. Rapid and material growth of our foreign trade will spell money. Every legitimate thing that needs generous allowances should get them. And they would get them under an administration directed by a business man, for no man ever rose to eminence and influence in private business affairs by a cheapsparing policy.

Skimping worthy objects is never economy, but often is waste. And in matters of government, where public interests are or should be considered in large bearings, a policy of false economy might produce very great disasters.

Painting Fish Gills.

The latest thing in food adulteration is reported from New York, where a woman has been haled into court because of painting the faded gills of fish that have been too long out of water, in an effort to give them the appearance of freshness. A food inspector passing the stand thought he saw something wrong about the color of the gills of some of the fish and did a little sleuthing, with the result that he detected the proprietor of the establishment applying a coal tar preparation with a paint brush. The fish were destroyed and the woman was arrested. This suggests the advisability of fish buyers taking a color scale to market with them for assurance against being imposed upon by unscrupulous dealers with an artistic touch. Fish that have been so long out of their native element as to need the application of a paint brush to prevent their gills from being a sure give-away are not likely to be particularly wholesome as food.

The pacifist idea that war is some sort of temperamental luxury which proper self-denial would dispense with is rapidly losing its appeal.

A ship may be torpedoed and still tell the tale unless submarine science develops a device for removing splinters.

Naval authorities agree that the less we like submarines, the more we need them.

Dr. Waite has said enough to prepare the way for an interesting insanity plea if he can afford the experts.

Political luncheons have become so important that every band wagon should be equipped with a buffet.

T. R. and W. J. B. are both scheduled for some bright and snappy interruptions at the June conventions.

Handshaking in order to be politically efficient may need a certain amount of judicious advertising.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

An Embarrassment.

"Are you complaining about the price of gasoline?"

"I should say I am," replied Farmer Cornstossel. "These city folks that come ridin' around here haven't money enough to pay their fines when they get arrested."

Cause for Rejoicing.

'Tis April. To the wakening bough The buds are lightly linked, And as a weather prophet now The ground hog is extinct.

"Some men," said Uncle Eben, "ain't happy unless dey's doin' sumpin' foolish; an' den dey ain't happy."

Having ascertained that it is incorrect to eat pie with the knife, Mr. S. Waller Hunks has decided to eat no more pie.

Caution.

"My doctor has advised me to walk more," said Mr. Chuggins.

"For exercise?"

"No. He says I can't stand the fatigue of cranking my automobile."

Onward and Upward.

"I expect to raise my voice for our friend at the convention," remarked the willing worker.

"Don't bother," rejoined Senator Sorghum; "raise funds."

By-Gones.

By-gones are by-gones. The buds are on the trees.

And the river lightly ripples where the water used to freeze.

The songsters carol as upon the branch they lightly swing.

And the blackbird does his best to join the chorus when they sing.

We shivered and we shivered as the snow came drifting past, And we huddled in a corner to escape the bitter blast.

The climate was a topic for indignant styles of chat—

But by-gones are by-gones; so, let it go at that.

There never was a frost so cold that it could wholly kill

The tiniest flower when it was due to blossom on the hill.

There never was a storm so fierce that it could sweep away

The human hopes and efforts that re-build, another day.

No matter if it seems a weary way you trudge along

It's wrong to grow disheartened and it's right to sing a song.

The moment may seem cheerless, but the moments swiftly fly,

And all our present sorrows will be by-gones, by and by.

One Clear Glass
Old-fashioned, two-part, double-vision lenses are unobtrusively—make you look older.
Bifocal lenses look like ordinary lenses—there is no line of demarcation. Perfect vision—no strain, no glare, no line or seam—each lens clear and smooth.
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Concerning the opportunity of purchasing a thoroughly reliable Typewriter from us.
At About 1/2 the Regular Rates
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HEADACHES
Thousands of men and women suffer from headaches every day. Other thousands have headaches every week or every month, and still others have headaches occasionally, but not at regular intervals. The best doctor in these headaches, and in most other cases, knowing the cause, he does not know what will remove it so as to give a permanent cure. All he can do is to prescribe the usual pain relievers, which give temporary relief, but the headache returns as usual, and treatment is again necessary. What you suffer from headaches, no matter what their nature, take anti-kamnia tablets, and the results will be satisfactory in the highest degree. You can obtain them at all druggists in any quantity. 10c, 25c, 50c, or more. Ask for "A-K" Tablets.
SICK HEADACHES
Sick-headache, the most miserable of all ailments, leaves its victims when A-K Tablets are taken. When you feel an attack coming on take two tablets, and in many cases the attack will be varied off. During an attack take one A-K Tablet every two hours. The rest and comfort which follow can be obtained in no other way.
Genuine A-K Tablets bear the A-K monogram. At all druggists—Advertisement.

Basement Store.
Tomorrow's Best Bargain.
Pink Corsets, 59c
Spring models—with wide spoon steel front. "Wont Rust" boning, embroidered top and four hose supports. All sizes.
Basement Store—6 Elevators.

The New Fashions Are Adorable, With Their Yokes, Tunics, Flounces and Capes.
Pictorial Review Fashion Book for May **FREE** Illustrating May Pictorial Review Patterns.
Fifteen Pages, illustrating Spring Costumes, Dressy Frocks, Suits, Commencement Frocks and Juvenile Clothes. May number—free—in Pictorial Review. Pattern Dept., Palais Royal, Street Floor.

SILKS
\$1.25 Value, **95c**
And scarce at \$1.25 yard—this Yard-wide Black Taffeta, with the soft chiffon finish. Pure dye and perfect black—ideal for suits, dresses and skirts.
\$1.75 Value, \$1.35
Chiffon Taffeta, white ground, with lustrous satin stripes, in rose, delft blue, Tipperary and white.

SERGE
59c Value, **45c**
In navy blue and black—Yard-wide Twill French Serge for dresses, and Double Warp Storm Serge, for coats, suits, dresses and separate skirts.
\$1.75 Cords, \$1.35
Bedford Cord, 54 inches wide, in lovely shades of gray, brown, green, plum, navy and black.

VOILE
Special at **25c**
40-inch French Voiles, Regimental Corded Voiles, Marquisettes, Shower Voiles and Tissue Filet.
New street and evening shades.
Tub Silks, 39c
Tub Silks in fast-color stripes and silk crepes, in rich designs and colors.
On Second Floor—Rear of the Elevators.

Features—Flaring Collars—to Wear Over the Suit Collar—and Newly Elaborated Cuffs
Parisian Blouses, Facsimiles and Adaptations, New York's 5th Avenue Styles of Today at the Nominal Price of \$1.95.
Very Special
Tomorrow, **\$1.95**
The Price Is Extraordinary.
Bad luck brings good luck—the specialty store in New York has had luck, financially. The 1,500 Blouses, made to order for the New York store, were not delivered. They come here. It means good luck for tomorrow's visitors to the Palais Royal. Come prepared to buy a half dozen of these blouses. Ready—tomorrow morning—ON STREET FLOOR, NEAR ELEVATORS.

A Hat Made to Suit Your Individuality
The Reputation of the Palais Royal Milliners Assures Artistic Results—For As Little As \$5 or As Much As \$50.
Fifth Avenue Sailors Note the New Crowns and Brims **at \$3.50 and \$4.50**
The "lines" of the correctly new sailors are as an important factor as the "lines" of your suit. The wanted colors are only too scarce. All here—Cherry red, navy blue, Russian green, brown, Copenhagen, purple, old rose, Alice blue, cerise, sand, citron and black. As to the trimmings—much depends upon your individuality and dress. Cannot you implicitly trust a Palais Royal milliner? You'll feel you can—after a few minutes' interview.
Imported Trimmings, 75c to \$2.50 Beautiful American Roses, 25c
Imitation Gaura, \$1.25 to \$5.00. Other Flowers at 50c Bunch.
Samples of French Roses, Foliage and Fruits. Imitation of Gaura Feathers—the "Gouras," at \$1.25 to \$5.00, are so like the real that they will be real to all but the wearer.
As little as 25c for bunches of Lovely Roses. At 50c are Frenchlike Roses, Pansies, Violets, Orchids, Daisies, Poppies and Blossoms. At all prices is Foliage in all styles and colors to match flowers.

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Suits That Are Ideals
1—The wool cloths are sponged and shrunk before making up. 2—The imported dyes used are fully guaranteed. 3—The tailoring assures perfect lines indefinitely retained. 4—The styles reflect Paris and London plus New York—spring ideals.
A Nominal Price, \$21.50 For Such Suits.
Five hundred and more (521) of the Suits went on sale for the first time Monday morning—on this third floor of the Palais Royal. They—with the blouses told of in a paragraph above—constitute the store news of the season in Washington and give a delightfully new meaning to the word "bargain."
The Star artist has sketched two of the new suits, one richly elaborated with gold braid, the other embroidered.

\$3.50 for Your New \$5.00 Corsets
The corset must conform to your individuality, while giving correct lines. Allow a Palais Royal corsetiere to fit your model of the new "La Premiere"—at \$3.50, instead of \$5.00.
Third Floor—Near the Suit Department.

New \$1.00 Lingerie
Attractive Spring-Summer Styles
Dainty pink and blue—as well as white lingerie. Tailored and elaborately trimmed styles. Sizes for small, medium and big women.
140 Styles in All.
Nightgowns35 new styles
Envelope Chemises.....30 new styles
Combination Garments.....15 new styles
Petticoats20 new styles
Corset Covers.....15 new styles
Bodices15 new styles
Drawers10 new styles

Silk Petticoats, \$2.98
Different and Better.
Note the quality of taffeta and messaline silks—and the tailoring of the new style flounces. Black and all the best colors to select from.
Street Floor—Near Elevators.
Envelope Chemise, 50c
Of soft nainsook, with yokes of laces and embroideries, some with medallions. A limited number in flesh pink.
Street Floor—Rear of Elevators.
\$5 to \$10 Corsets, **\$2.99**
If you can wear these sizes—18, 19, 20, 21, 22. Famous makes—Madame Lyra, Bon Ton, Bien Jolie, La Premiere and Parisette.
Street Floor—Near Elevators.

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